

Research Paper

Comparing a Movie to the Book upon Which It Was Based

In comparison and contrast papers, two purposes are served: to explain the similarities and differences between two subjects (the book and movie, in this case); and secondly, to prove to your audience that one is superior to the other. The introduction should let the reader know the focus of the paper. You must let the reader know, in a persuasive introduction which includes your thesis statement, which version is superior or more desirable—the book or the movie. *Yes*, you can like or dislike both, but **YOU MUST** argue in support of one or the other. Persuasive comparison/contrast papers rely heavily on critical thinking. In persuading readers that one subject is superior, you must present convincing evidence—that's where the body of the paper comes into play.

In the body of the paper you need to compare and contrast various elements of both the book and movie. These elements will include main (and minor, if important) characters and the entire plot. [YOUR ANALYSIS]

In addition, in the body of the paper you will compare and contrast what professional reviewers have written concerning the book's and the movie's plot and characters. You must cite two book reviewers and two movie reviewers, expressing their opinions in relation to each other and also in relation to your analysis. This means that you will have *at least four sources* referenced in your paper. You will use MLA (Modern Language Association) format to cite these sources using parenthetical notation and a comparable bibliography page (called a *Works Cited* page in MLA language). By the end of the body section of your paper, the reader will easily be able to discern which of the two you prefer. [REVIEWERS' ANALYSIS]

The conclusion will recapitulate your opinion and offer a final recommendation.

There are various methods that could be used to organize your paper. The following outline(s) could be used to keep you on track. You must write an outline before you begin writing your rough draft. This will keep you focused, show you that you have all of the information that you need, and prove to your reader that you have put some serious thought into your paper and its conclusions.